Growth of insurance sector

602. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the overall growth of the insurance sector during the last three years from 2003-2004 to 2005-2006;

(b) the comparative growth of life insurance and general insurance;

(c) the comparative growth of public sector, life insurance and general insurance companies and the private sector life insurance and general insurance companies during this period;

(d) the number of health insurance policies during the same period; and

(e) the additional employment generated in this industry as a result of opening up of this industry for the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) As reported by Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority (IRDA), the overall growth of the insurance sector during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Life Insurance	Non-life Insurance
2003-04	19.56%	12.21%
2004-05	24.31%	12.09%
2005-06	27.78%	16.46%

(b) and (c) Growth in the life insurance sector is measured in terms of addition of new business, which is represented by first year premium income. The details of first year premium under-written by Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and 14 Private Sector Life Insurance Companies (as on 31.03.2006) during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
LIC	16989.29	20653.06	28515.87
Private Life Insurance Companies	2440.71	5564.57	10269.66
TOTAL:	19430.00	22617.63	38785.53

The gross premium underwritten by four public sector and eight private sector general insurance companies during the last three years is as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Private Sector	2257.83	3507.62	5361.53
Public Sector	13337.09	13972.96	14997.06
TOTAL:	15594.92	17480.59	20358.59

(d) The number of health insurance policies issued by public and private sector general insurance companies during the last three years is given below:—

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Public Sector	3030279	3110440	3216783
Private Sector	383827	684929	1100620
TOTAL:	3414106	3795369	4317403

(e) IRDA has reported that opening of the Insurance Sector has generated direct employment in the private insurance companies. Additional employment opportunities have also been provided through licensing/ appointment of Third Party Administrators, Surveyors and Loss assessors, Claim Investigators, Insurance Brokers and agents. In addition, insurers have outsourced number of activities such as risk assessment and analysis, IT support, actuarial, market survey, in-house administrative services, call centres, data entries, policy insurance, etc., which have also resulted in generation of employment. The number of agent licenses issued by IRDA during the last two years is given below:—

Sectors	2004-05	2005-06
Life	1256588	1422881
Non-life	115379	118830
TOTAL:	1371967	1541711